

*****April 27, 2020*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting electronically on Monday, April 27, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dan Landrum
Vice Mayor Amy Speak
Councilmember Cheryl Graham
Councilmember Bill Lusk
Councilmember Susannah Murdock

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Landrum led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Minutes

The minutes for the March 17, 2019 special meeting were presented. There was a minor spelling correction that did not affect the substance of the minutes. The minutes were approved as amended.

The minutes for the March 30, 2020 regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Landrum invited comments from the audience.

Tom Francescon, Crown Point Road West, asked to Council to consider opening all aspects of Town services.

There being no further comments, the meeting resumed.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO LAWSON ELECTRIC COMPANY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$28,927.00) FOR ELECTRICAL SERVICE UPGRADES IN THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN SWIMMING POOL PUMP ROOM AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO

EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AWARD.

Councilmember Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Murdock seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

Discussion

- a. **Recycle – Re-opening Plan.** Town Manager, Boyd Veal, explained that the recycle center can be re-opened as a drive through facility. He said cars will line up in the gravel parking lot. He said that one car at a time will be allowed to drive into the center, unload their recycling, and drive out the exit gate at the end. Mr. Veal also said that the center will only be open to residents. Council was in agreement to proceed with this plan.
- b. **Use of Recreation Facilities.** Mayor Landrum said that playgrounds are closed by State guidelines, along with public use facilities and overnight uses. After extensive discussion, the Council agreed to open the tennis courts for use. They also agreed to open baseball fields for general use but to be closed to leagues. The Council agreed to close Shoal Creek Road on Sundays to allow for walking and to open Green Gorge Park. The Council was in consensus that the Rainbow Lake trails, the gym and the Mountain Arts Community Center (MACC) should remain closed. Mr. Veal explained that there are concerns about the Town's current ability to hire lifeguards for the pool. He also said he has serious concerns about how to manage the number of persons, staying for hours at a time, in that small of a space. Councilmember Lusk said that not allowing parking has made the situation overall better on Palisades Road. After more discussion, the Council asked to revisit the closing of the gym, MACC, pool issues, Rainbow Lake trails, and overlook parks/Palisades Road at the next meeting.
- c. **General Town Operations.** Mr. Veal informed the Council that staff is doing brush pick-up. He said that the transfer station is still open on a limited basis and is not accepting construction debris or bulky items. He said the transfer station is also closed to contractors at this time. Mr. Veal said that staff is going to install a glass partition at the counter at Town Hall. He said that they will also restrict customers to allow only one at a time at the counter. He said there will be space in the lobby for customers to wait. Council gave consensus to continue operations as is for the next 2 weeks.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal explained that he continues to focus on the budget. He said the Council will be issued the budget documents in advance of the budget meeting.

Mr. Veal said that TDOT had performed an external audit on the James Boulevard project. He said the Town received a letter today stating that there were no findings.

Mr. Veal said he spoke to the President of the Signal Mountain Golf and Country Club, Arch Trimble. Mr. Veal said that Mr. Trimble will act as the Country Club liaison to the Council for the next 20 months.

Other Business

- a. Communications from the Mayor. Mayor Landrum said he had spoken to Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) Management Consultant, Honna Rogers, who said that MTAS does facilitate strategic planning sessions. He said she sent him a report on a recent East Ridge process. Mayor Landrum said he will e-mail that report to the Council. Mayor Landrum said MTAS will facilitate the planning sessions at no charge.

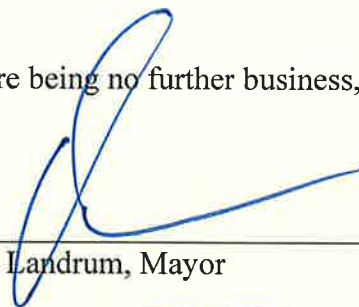
Mayor Landrum said he had spoken with the Chairman of the Parks Board, Josh Rogers about having volunteers perform trail repairs. Mayor Landrum said that Mr. Rogers doesn't think that a new board is needed, that the current Parks Board will do it. Mayor Landrum said he will ask Mr. Rogers to address the Council at a future meeting.

- b. Communications from Committees or Boards. Mayor Landrum said the Planning Commission will meet next month.
- c. Communications from the Town Council. Councilmember Murdock said that, as liaison to the Mountain Arts Community Center (MACC) Board, she appreciates and is thankful for the Signal Mountain Elementary Preservation Fund (SMEPF) and the work they are doing at the MACC. Mayor Landrum said that since live events can not be held at the MACC, he is looking at live streaming events to help with fundraising.
- d. Other. Mr. Veal reminded the Council that the all-day budget worksession will be on Wednesday, May 20th.

Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the May 11, 2020 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.



Dan Landrum, Mayor



Recorder